City of Little Rock



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July 25, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Please accept this letter as my statement of support for AT&T's proposal to acquire T-Mobile USA.

As a member of a small-business family and an elected member of the Board of Directors for the City of Little Rock, AR, I am keenly aware that, in today's technology-based economy, one of the most important factors for economic growth is broadband. The AT&T plan will offer 4G LTE broadband access to more than 97 percent of the people throughout the country, including many in my city and state.

The National Broadband Plan states, "Like electricity a century ago, broadband is a foundation for economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness and a better way of life." I agree with that statement, as I'm sure you do. A recent report from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noted that 35 percent of Arkansans already rely exclusively on mobile service. For them, mobile broadband is the only route to that better way of life.

Central Arkansas is home to a number of technology-based companies, several colleges and universities, and the state's largest concentration of major healthcare facilities. Of the state's 2.9 million inhabitants, nearly 900,000 live in the Combined Statistical Area that is anchored by metropolitan Little Rock. Access to reliable, high-quality services such as mobile broadband is essential to commerce, education and daily life in our community. We need 4G LTE service, and AT&T has an excellent plan to deliver it.

Technology investments also stimulate the economy, and few companies invest more dramatically than AT&T. From 2008-2010, the company invested more than \$500 million in its Arkansas mobile and landline networks. The Progressive Policy Institute estimates that AT&T invested \$19.5 billion in capital spending nationwide in 2010. With the acquisition of T-Mobile, AT&T expects to spend additional billions on its networks. The company's investments help create new jobs throughout our regional economy, and that is another important reason to support it.

Thank you for considering my views, and for your ongoing service to our nation. Please help my city, my state, and our nation by voting for the AT&T plan to acquire T-Mobile USA.

Sincerely,

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City Director, Ward 7